

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

From Seed to Harvest: A beginner's guide to growing Eutrochium

Eutrochium, more commonly known as Joe Pye Weed, is a taller plant with pink/purple blooms that attracts monarchs and other butterflies. It has vanilla-scented blooms and can reach up to 10 feet tall. Although the plant is referred to as a weed, it has pretty blooms and can be very beneficial to the garden by attracting pollinators. The plant has previously been used to treat people with typhus fever, and its blooms are used to make colored dyes for textiles. The plant is a perennial that will return each year.

To plant:

Direct sow Joe Pye Weed seeds outdoors. Prior to planting, rake the soil in which you will place the seeds. Scatter the seeds across the top of the soil and water immediately after placing the seeds. When choosing a location for the Joe Pye Weed, keep in mind the plant can reach astounding heights, so possibly use it as a back border. Since it is so big, it requires a large amount of space, up to 24 inches between plants. Joe Pye Weed also can be planted by cuttings from adult plants and division. Plant Joe Pye Weed seeds in the spring or in the fall.

To grow:

Once sprouts appear, do not thin them. Joe Pye Weed prefers full sun to partial shade, and it can tolerate poor soil, but it prefers the soil to be moist. Provide a deep watering regularly. Mulching around the plant helps retain moisture. Joe Pye Weed will typically bloom in the late summer to early fall. Cut the plants back to 4 to 8 inches above the ground once it is done blooming. New growth will begin in the spring.



[Sweet Joe Pye Weed Eutrochium seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

If Joe Pye Weed grows too tall, it may get damaged by wind or by its own weight, so add stakes near the plant.

To harvest:

As it is mostly used to attract pollinators to the garden, Joe Pye Weed is typically not harvested. However, its seeds can be harvested to plant more Joe Pye Weed. To harvest seeds, place a mature seed head in a brown paper bag and shake it to loosen the seeds from the seed head. Healthy seeds will be plump. Do not use seeds that appear shriveled or small.

What Eutrochium craves:

Use a fertilizer specific for blossoming plants and apply it in the spring once the plant begins to show signs of new growth. Apply the fertilizer again in the middle of the summer when the blossoms begin to appear. To apply the fertilizer, spread it over the roots of the plant.



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Where to buy Eutrochium seeds:

Urban Farmer offers Joe Pye Weeds that produce sweet blooms.

Check out our Eutrochium seed selection on our website at ufseeds.com



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